

□ Brief History

Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) has developed into one of the best science and engineering colleges in the world. KAIST was established under the name of Korea Advanced Institute of Science (KAIS) under a special law in February 16, 1971 as the first research oriented graduate school in science and engineering in Korea with the purpose of developing scientists and engineers to advance science and technology, develop R&D based on national policies and support national research/industries. In 1989, KAIST established the education/research system of special talents in science and engineering fields in bachelor, master and doctoral degrees, and KAIST has succeeded in greatly contributing to the innovation of science and technology and improving international competitiveness by serving as a model institute that advanced science and technology performs high-end research, and being the birthplace of venture companies.

KAIST was able to achieve its goals quickly by utilizing the tradition of special science and engineering fields, know-how and strengths accumulated on the basis of self-regulated and flexible academic affairs under the special law in a way to introduce the advance academic system that includes no-entrance exam applications, no class or department "core" system, research-oriented / quality-centered education, speedy education system, interdisciplinary education system operation, invited visitors of notable foreign professors, full lecture assessment system, stringent faculty personnel management by work assessment and others, obligatory publication of doctorate dissertation work in well known academic publications, minimal burden of lectures, research system, establishment of cyber university and other activities. KAIST has led other colleges and research institutions in Korea by its successful model operation and was verified by the ABET (USA, Higher Science Education Assessment Board) assessment (graduate course is within 10% of top US college level) in 1992, assessment of nationwide colleges by Joongang Ilbo (1995, 1998 ~ 2001, 2006 : First position, and assessment of Asian colleges by Asiaweek (1999 ~ 2000: Number one in science and technology), The Times of England (2006 : 37th of Top 100 world university in Technology) and others.

For the past 38 years, KAIST has produced 9,168 bachelors, 18,844 masters, 7,223 doctorate holders (doctors under 20 years of age were 3,105, 43%) giving a total of 32,941 alumni. The thesis published in SCI (US, Science and Technology Quotation Thesis Search) journals reached approximately 4 articles per each faculty member, and the commissioned research grant was approximately 200 million won per each faculty, which is world-class level. The famous scientific publications such as 「Nature」 (GB, July 1993) and 「Science」 (USA, October 1993) have assessed that, "KAIST has the potential to be the world best level education institution." This has been evidenced by its taking the 95th place overall in The Times' list of top 100 universities worldwide in the year 2008 (34th in Engineering & IT; 46th in Natural Sciences) and many other brilliant achievements.

For the last 38 years, KAIST has produced a total of 32,941 talented scientists and engineers, including 9,168 bachelors, 18,844 masters and 7,223 doctors (with 3,105 or 43% of them being in their twenties). On average, KAIST faculty members have published around four SCI-indexed papers and won approximately 200 million Korean won in research funds for their commissioned research projects. Such world-class achievements have been highly recognized by Nature (United Kingdom, July 1993), Science (United States, October 1993) and many other internationally distinguished journals, which have noted, "KAIST has what it takes to be one of the world's best educational institutions."

With an aim of becoming the world's best university of science and technology, KAIST established a five-year development plan and has successfully pushed for pioneering reforms in education, research, human resources management, business management and globalization.

In the area of education, KAIST has introduced the world's first design/synthesization courses to further strengthen its undergraduate program and has provided English-only courses to greatly enhance students' creativity and global competitiveness. Aimed at improving creativity and comprehensive thinking, the design/synthesization courses will be expanded to the graduate program through the Renaissance Program, cementing KAIST's position as the world's best design-oriented university in name and indeed. KAIST has also been a great source of inspiration

for many educational institutions at home and abroad, overhauling its admissions system into a character-, creativity- and leadership-oriented one to unearth talented young students and revamping its tuition system to further promote a sense of responsibility.

In research, KAIST has launched KAIST Institutes (KI) to pursue world-class interdisciplinary studies, centering especially on cutting-edge technologies over which it has a competitive edge; it has also been daring enough to push for high-risk high-return projects for promoting creative ideas and adventurous research. In an effort to address pressing issues for mankind in the 21st century such as efficient utilization and preservation of energy, environment, water and resources, KAIST has focused its research capabilities on the area of sustainability. In this way, it seeks to contribute greatly to humanity as a whole and create new business opportunities for fueling Korea's economic development in the near future.

In human resources and business management, KAIST has introduced new and stricter systems for tenure, reappointment and appointment of distinguished professors with an aim of promoting fair competition among faculty members. It has also reinforced its department-oriented system further, leading department heads to assume full responsibility for human resources management, finance, space allocation and education in their respective departments. By hiring professors in connection to areas of research in KI, KAIST has replaced the existing fields of research pursued by its departments with whole new disciplines that can create future demands and opportunities; it has identified new areas of research and created new departments on this basis while reorganizing the functions of its existing academic organizations in response to future demands. The newly introduced ERP system will also help establish an advanced environment for administrative management.

In the area of globalization, KAIST has established dual degree programs with an additional eight globally-renowned universities including the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Technische Universität Berlin. It has proactively pursued a wide array of international cooperation projects including the University Presidents' Forum, establishing a global network of science and technology and further reinforcing its global promotion campaigns.

KAIST has made strenuous efforts to secure financial resources for its further development. The recipient of Korea's largest amount of contribution ever from a single individual, it has been remarkably successful in attracting contributions not just from across Korea but also from foreigners and Koreans residing abroad. It has also revamped its administrative systems for more efficient allocation of resources available.

KAIST will continue to dedicate itself to strengthening its system established through reinitialization and identifying new fields of research and areas requiring improvement so that it can become a world-leading university in a genuine sense that keeps reinventing itself.

□ Purpose

- ▷ Fostering of advanced scientists and engineers with in-depth theoretical knowledge and an ability to make practical applications
- ▷ Mid- to long-term research and development in line with state policies; and basic/applied research for enhancing Korea's scientific and technological potential
- ▷ Research assistance for other research institutions and enterprises

□ Educational Objective

By spearheading the effort to develop science and lead technological innovation through education and research, KAIST shall educate talents in science and technology fields to have excellent capacity and leadership so that they may contribute to the country and society, and display creative and practical minds.

□ Timeline

- ▷ Feb. 16, 1971 Establishment of Korea Advanced Institute of Science (KAIS) (Hongneung Campus, Seoul)
- ▷ Mar. 05, 1973 First entrance ceremony for the master's program
- ▷ Aug. 20, 1975 First graduation ceremony for the master's program
- ▷ Sep. 12, 1975 First entrance ceremony for the doctoral program
- ▷ Aug. 19, 1978 First graduation ceremony for the doctoral program
- ▷ Dec. 31, 1980 Establishment of Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), in which KAIS is merged with KIST
- ▷ Dec. 31, 1984 Establishment of Korea Institute of Technology, newly added bachelor degree course
- ▷ Mar. 03, 1986 First entrance ceremony for Korea Institute of Technology
- ▷ Jun. 12, 1989 Separation from KIS
- ▷ Jul. 04, 1989 KAIST is merged with Korea Institute of Technology (relocation to Daedeok Campus)
- ▷ Dec. 17, 1990 First graduation ceremony for bachelor's program
- ▷ Oct. 01, 1996 Establishment of Korea Institute of Advanced Study
- ▷ Feb. 02, 2009 Incorporation of Korea Science Academy (KSA) as a KAIST-affiliated school
- ▷ Mar. 01, 2009 Incorporation of Information and Communications University (ICU)

□ Rules

KAIST Rules <http://rule.kaist.ac.kr/>